

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KHARTO 02526 290915Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06

OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01

PRS-01 /112 W

-----130804 290958Z /10

R 290802Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4974

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 2526

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SU

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM: CHEVRON ACCELERATES EXPLORATION PROGRAM

REF: KHARTOUM A-91, SEPTEMBER 13, 1976

1. CHEVRON OIL COMPANY APPEARS TO HAVE DECIDED TO ACCELERATE PACE OF ITS 50 MILLION DOLLAR EXPLORATION PROGRAM IN CENTRAL WESTERN SUDAN. INITIAL PROGRAM PLANNED FOR AIRBORNE MAGNETIC SURVEY, GRAVIMETRIC SURVEY, SEISMIC SURVEY AND FOUR EXPLORATION WELLS. CHEVRON HAS NOW DECIDED TO IMPORT ADDITIONAL DRILLING RIG. THIS ADDITIONAL RIG PROBABLY MEANS THAT CHEVRON WILL INCREASE SIZE OF THEIR EXPLORATION PROGRAM. ALSO, CHEVRON PLANS SPUDDING IN OF FIRST EXPLORATORY WELL ABOUT SEPTEMBER 15. THIS WELL WILL BE LOCATED ABOUT ONE HUNDRED MILES SOUTH OF BABANUSA NEAR RAILROAD.

2. COMMENT. CHEVRON OFFICIALS AND CONTRACTORS ARE FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO CONCEAL THEIR OPTIMISM ABOUT OIL PROSPECTS IN  
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THEIR CALIFORNIA SIZED CONCESSION AREA IN CENTRAL SUDAN. CHEVRON PERSONNEL HAVE DESCRIBED AREA AS LARGEST FREE WORLD ON LAND SEDIMENTARY BASIN IN WHICH NO DRILLING HAS TAKEN PLACE. REPORTEDLY SEISMIC WORK HAS DISCLOSED STRUCTURES OF "MIDDLE EAST DIMENSIONS." HOWEVER, EXISTENCE OF SUCH STRUCTURES DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN OIL. BY LATE THIS YEAR RESULTS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM FIRST WELL. AT THAT TIME,

EMBASSY SHOULD BE ABLE TO ASSESS WHETHER "WILDCATTER'S OPTIMISM"  
HAS BEEN JUSTIFIED.  
BERGUS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KHARTO02526  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770272-0397  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 KHARTOUM A-91  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1839673  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PETROLEUM: CHEVRON ACCELERATES EXPLORATION PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** ENRG, SU, CHEVRON OIL CO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009